

# Key findings and recommendations *baseline study TAFU*

## Moroto & Napak districts



Major HIV implementing partners are: Baylor, Doctors in Africa (CUAM), International Rescue Committee (IRC) and Home Based Care under the Catholic Church in Moroto

## Recommendations

- Mobilize and raise awareness of communities on positive living and address the fear of immediate death among people living with HIV
- Mobilize and increase awareness of communities on eMTCT and care for children living with HIV
- Increase and strengthen family support groups for eMTCT
- Address the gender and power relations
- Proactively promote male involvement in the eMTCT programme
- Engage religious, cultural and other community leaders for eMTCT and Paediatric HIV care
- Strengthen referral and tracing of mothers especially at community level
- Strengthen health facility based information sessions especially at lower level health facilities
- Engages with other HIV implementing partners Baylor, CUAM, IRC, HBC-program of the Catholic Church in Karamoja
- Advocacy, active engagement and dialogue for health system strengthening
- Address livelihood needs and support long-lasting solutions to the food crisis in the region
- Support caregivers of HIV positive children to address economic needs
- Promote HIV testing beyond the health facility
- Engage networks of people living with HIV in community mobilisation and education
- Initiate and strengthen age-appropriate support groups for children living with HIV
- Train community volunteers to assist in follow up of children
- Build the capacity of health workers on paediatric HIV care

Towards an  
**AIDS**  
**free**   
generation  
in Uganda  
program

# Facilitators and barriers of eMTCT and paediatric HIV care

## Moroto & Napak districts

### Facilitators

#### At family level

- Awareness about PMTCT
- Desire to give birth to HIV negative children
- Motivation to live and care for children
- Husband/spouse support
- Support from relatives (reminders, food and transport)
- Home visits by HWs

#### At community level

- Peace in the area
- Mobilisation by VHTs and PHAs
- Awareness of available PMTCT services
- Support from Home Based Care (food, counselling)
- Transport refund for mothers and those who escort them to health facilities for delivery
- Sensitization by PHAs
- Support and encouragement from PHA networks
- Support from Home Based Care under Moroto Catholic Church (food, counselling)

#### At health facility level

- Availability of services at HC IV and III
- Routine provision of HCT in ANC & Immunisation
- Information and health education sessions
- Counselling by health workers
- Good care by health workers
- Provision of food
- Distribution of some materials like mosquito nets, mama kits, baby kits
- Voucher system (ambulance & transport refund for mother and the person accompanying her to facility (by CUAM)
- Availability of drugs and test kits
- Family support groups (CUAMM & IRC)
- Provision of food (maize flour at some health facilities) by CUAM
- Follow-up by PHA networks

### Barriers

#### At family level

- Lack of food
- Poverty
- Long distances to health centres
- Stigma
- Gender and power relations
- Low male involvement
- Fear of domestic violence
- Inadequate counselling and follow-up
- Fear of disclosure
- Lack of transport
- Alcoholism (forget to take drugs)
- Negative attitude towards HIV testing
- High level of illiteracy (forget appointments)
- Lack of family support
- Orphan hood
- Stigma & discrimination by adults and children
- Drug reactions/side effects
- Children ask how they got infected
- Difficult to disclose to children

#### At community level

- Stigma & discrimination in the community
- Low levels of awareness on the available services
- Community mistrust of the VHTs
- Mobile communities
- High expectations from health units
- Inaccessible roads in rainy season
- Stigma & discrimination in schools (nicknames)
- Eating schedules at school not favouring children living with HIV

#### At health facility level

- Stock out of ARVs
- Delays at health facilities
- Lack of drugs for other sicknesses
- Distance to the facility
- Negative attitude of some health workers
- Delayed infant results (discourages mother)
- Inadequate counselling and support for new HIV positive mothers
- Lack of play materials for children